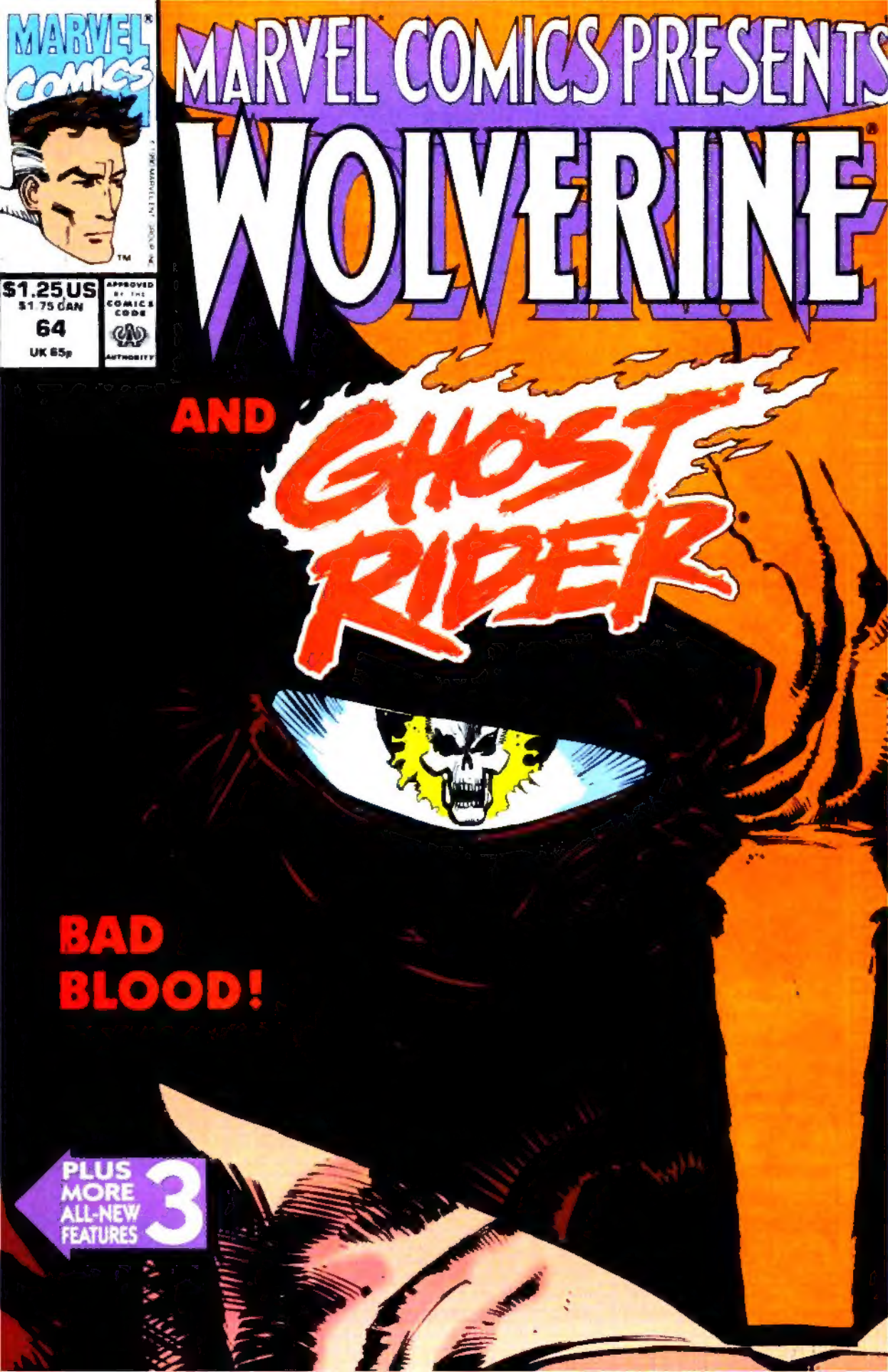

MARVEL COMICS
$1.25US
$1.75 CAN
64
UK 65p
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS
WOLVERINE
AND
GHOST RIDER
BAD BLOOD!
PLUS MORE ALL-NEW FEATURES 3

# MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS

Cover—MIKE THOMAS / KLAUS JANSON
TERRY KAVANAGH—Editor

KELLY CORVESE—Assistant Editor
TOM DeFALCO—Editor in Chief


Page

**WOLVERINE ..... 1**

Acts of Vengeance
Part 1 of 8

"GHOSTS OF THE PAST"

Wolverine—X-Man and unofficial protector of Madripoor.
Ghost Rider—demonic spirit of vengeance and unofficial protector of Brooklyn.
They are both being sought out by a secret organization of deadly assassins and both seek vengeance against those assassins. But will they be able to work together?!

Writer — HOWARD MACKIE
Penciler — MARK TEXEIRA
Inker — HARRY CANDELARIO
Letterer — CLEM ROBINS
Colorist — GREGORY WRIGHT

Page

**POISON ..... 9**

Vandals of the Heart
Part 5 of 8

"INJURIES"

Detective Lieutenant Daniel Harris has learned that the three toughs he found lying in an alleyway were killed with a mop. "Foxy", the Slug's hitman, is hot on the trail of Joe Trinity. And Poison prepares to visit vengeance on Dallas Kerr and Sally Trinity, whose cruelties destroyed Joe's life and mind.

Writer — STEVE GERBER
Art — CINDY MARTIN
Letterer — TIM HARKINS
Colorist — CHRIS IVY

Page

**FANTASTIC FOUR ..... 17**

Dark Dimensions
Part 1 of 5

"COMMON SENSE"

Ever since accidental exposure to cosmic rays changed his life forever, Reed Richards, legendary founder of the Fantastic Four and inventor non-pareil, has never shirked from danger. But even he is unprepared for the strange adventure that awaits him tonight.

Writer — ROBERT DENATALE
Penciler — MIKE HARRIS
Inker — SAM GRAINGER
Letterer — JOHN MORELLI
Colorist — NEL YOMTOV

Page

**BLADE ..... 25**

"VAMPIRES"

When his mother was murdered just after his birth, the man known only as Blade was set on a vengeful path against the unholy beings that killed her—vampires! As far as he knows, all the world's vampires have been destroyed. But have they?

Writer — MARCUS McLAURIN
Penciler — MALCOLM DAVIS
Inker — JOSEPH ADILETTA
Letterer — RICK PARKER
Colorist — PATY COCKRUM



**MARVEL® COMICS PRESENTS™ Vol. 1, No. 64, 1990.** (ISSN# 1044-7180) Published by MARVEL COMICS. James E. Galton, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson, Group Vice President, Publishing. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. **SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, N.Y. AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES.** Published biweekly.

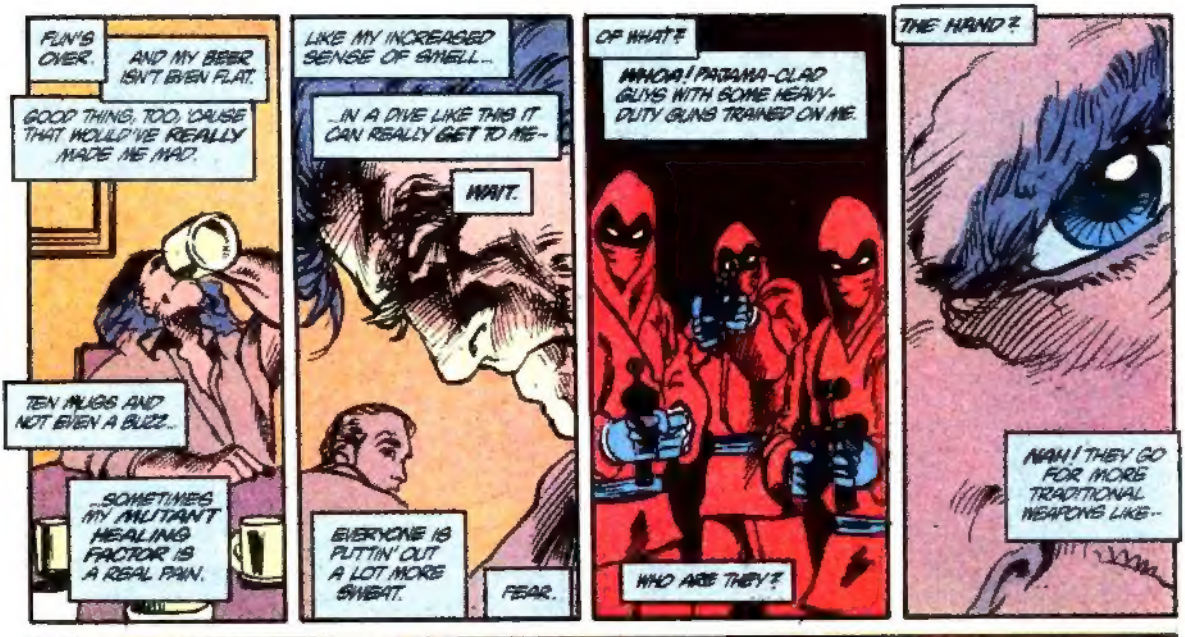

Copyright © 1990 by Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Price $1.25 per copy in the U.S. and $1.75 in Canada. Subscription rate for 12 issues: U.S. $15.00, Canada $20.00, and foreign $27.00. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. WOLVERINE (including all prominent characters featured in the issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) are trademarks of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC.


POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO: MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS, c/o MARVEL COMICS, SUBSCRIPTION DEPARTMENT, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016

ACTS OF VENGEANCE
PART ONE
GHOSTS OF THE PAST
STARRING: GHOST RIDER AND WOLVERINE
I COME HERE FOR THE BEER, NOT FOR THE COMPANY.
MADRIPOOR...
TYPICAL NIGHT IN A TYPICAL MADRIPOORIAN DIVE
MOSTLY DRUNKEN SAPS WHO'VE BEEN OUT AT SEA TOO LONG.
BOOZE, BROADS AND...
SKRAK
...BREAKIN' EACH OTHERS' HEADS.
LUCKY BRANDY. SHE MAY GET TO GO HOME WITH ONE OF THESE CHARMERS!
I DON'T CARE WHAT THEY DO TO EACH OTHER...
...AS LONG AS THEY DON'T DISTURB MY DRINKIN'!
BROOKLYN...
KARATE
BROOKLYN, LAND OF THE TOUGH GUYS--
--ONLY I'M NOT SO TOUGH.
NOT MUCH OF A FIGHTER EITHER
GROWING UP MY BUDDY--JACK DUQUESNE--ALWAYS TOOK CARE OF ME.
EVERYONE KNEW JACK TOOK KARATE CLASSES.
SO THEY LEFT LITTLE DAN KETCH ALONE.
JACK IS STILL LOOKING OUT FOR ME.
AND STILL STUDYING KARATE.
GREAT! THREE DRUNKS THAT WANT TO PROVE THEMSELVES TO BE TOUGH GUYS.
KARATE-KID! SHOW US WHAT YOU GOT!

REAL INTELLECTS THESE TWO.
THEY'VE GOT THE ENTIRE BAR VOTIN' ON WHO BRANDY GETS TO GO HOME WITH.
LOOKS LIKE IT'S A TIE.
GUESS WHO GETS TO BE THE TIE-BREAKER.
ONLY I DON'T FEEL LIKE VOTIN'.
DON'T FEEL MUCH LIKE FIGHTIN' EITHER. HAD A BELLYFULL WITH MY TEAMMATES, THE X-MEN.
LOOKS LIKE THEY AREN'T GIVIN' ME A CHOICE.
IN MADRIPOOR I'M KNOWN AS PATCH...
DECIDE!
...ELSEWHERE THEY CALL ME--
GRRRRR...
--WOLVERINE.
THEY'RE LOOKING FOR A FIGHT I CAN'T GIVE THEM.
DON'T WANT TO GIVE THEM.
I SEE ENOUGH VIOLENCE THROUGH OTHER EYES.
EYES FILLED WITH PAIN.
EYES THAT THESE THREE DON'T WANT TO LOOK INTO.
DO IT, BOY--
--OR BLEED!
CLICK

THE BOTTLES ARE SHARP..
..I'VE GOT SOMETHING SHARPER.
GO AWAY.
YOU AIN'T TOO FRIENDLY, UGLY!
LET'S DISH 'IM!
I DON'T NEED MY CLAWS FOR THEM!!
THEIR BOTTLES WILL DO THE JOB.
I SAID-- GO AWAY!
BUT I LET THEM LIVE--
Y-Y-YES, SIR!
--DON'T WANT ANY OF THEIR BLOOD IN MY BEER.
THEY'RE GIVING ME NO CHOICE.
I NEED TO REACH THE BIKE, OR--
YEOW! MY ARM! I CAN'T FEEL MY ARM!
JACK.
HE STANDS COILED LIKE A STEEL SPRING
THE PUNKS THINK KARATEKA ARE FANCY DANCERS IN PAJAMAS.
...JACK TEACHES THEM OTHERWISE.
WHUD
THEY RUN.
IF I'D REACHED THE BIKE THEY WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN SO LUCKY
GOOD FOR THEM.


FUN'S OVER.
AND MY BEER ISN'T EVEN FLAT.
GOOD THING, TOO, 'CAUSE THAT WOULD'VE REALLY MADE ME MAD.
TEN MUGS AND NOT EVEN A BUZZ..
..SOMETIMES MY MUTANT HEALING FACTOR IS A REAL PAIN.
LIKE MY INCREASED SENSE OF SMELL..
..IN A DIVE LIKE THIS IT CAN REALLY GET TO ME--
WAIT.
EVERYONE IS PUTTIN' OUT A LOT MORE SWEAT.
FEAR.
OF WHAT?
WHOA! PAJAMA-CLAD GUYS WITH SOME HEAVY-DUTY GUNS TRAINED ON ME.
WHO ARE THEY?
THE HAND?
NAH! THEY GO FOR MORE TRADITIONAL WEAPONS LIKE--

--A BLADE!
SHRAK!

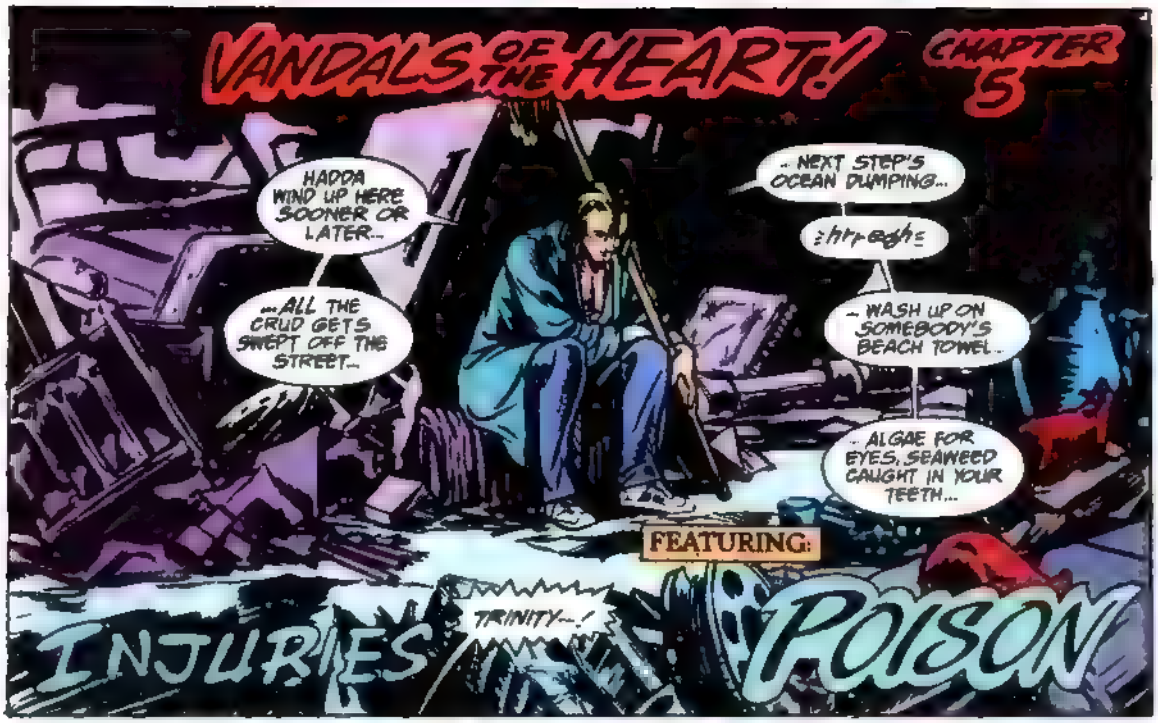
JACK WANTS ME TO MEET HIS SENSEI.
BUT HE SENSES TROUBLE AHEAD.
WAIT HERE.
NO WAY.
IF THERE IS TROUBLE, I'M GOING TO DO MY BEST TO HELP JACK FOR A CHANGE.
MASKED MEN WITH SWORDS FIGHTING JACK'S SENSEI.
KRAK
POK
I'VE SEEN THEIR KIND BEFORE--
DEATH-WATCH'S MEN.
THEY'RE THE ONES RESPONSIBLE FOR MY SISTER BEING HURT, AND IN A WAY, FOR ME BECOMING WHAT I AM.
JACK AND HIS TEACHER ARE WAY OUTNUMBERED.
DAN, GO GET HELP!

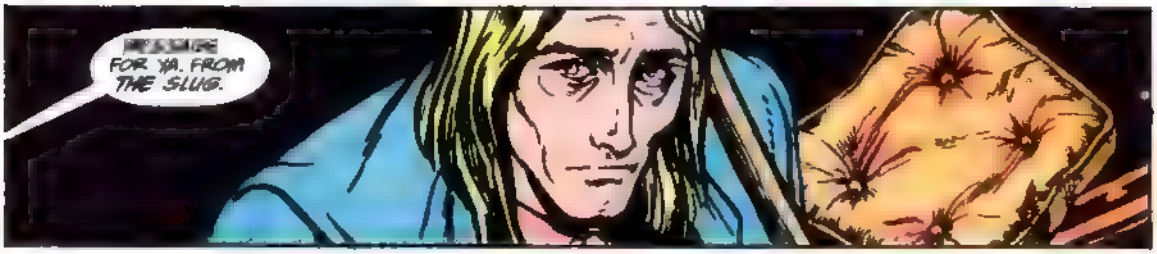
UGPH!
THAT SHOULD TAKE CARE OF THESE THREE.
THE BAR'S CLEARED OUT. CAN ALWAYS COUNT ON THE MADRIPOORIAN CITIZENS.
IT SHOULD GIVE ME TIME TO PUT ON MY MASK IN CASE--
--ANYONE ELSE SHOWS UP.
OH, WELL--
SNIKT
--THIS IS WHAT I DO BEST.
I SAID--
--GET HELP!
KRASH!
LUCKY HE PULLED HIS KICK.
DON'T HAVE TIME TO GO FOR THE COPS. NEED TO GET TO THE--
--BIKE!
MY ONLY CHANCE TO HELP IS AS--
--GHOST RIDER!

THEY FOUGHT WELL.
THEY'RE NO HAND, BUT THEY'RE GOOD.
JUST ONE LEFT STANDING.
HE'S SCARED STIFF. I CAN SMELL IT.
SCARED, BUT NOT SO MUCH THAT HE WON'T FIGHT.
GOOD FOR HIM.
BUT NOT GOOD ENOUGH.
TIME TO ANSWER SOME QUESTIONS.
YOU KNOW WHAT WE WANT, OLD MAN.
TELL US WHERE HE IS AND WE WON'T KILL THE KID.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS YOU SEEK.
KILL ME IF YOU MUST.
KILL THE KID.
NO
HUH?
CRAK

HE'LL CRACK. I CAN TELL.
WHERE ARE YOU FROM?
WHO SENT YOU? WHY?
I CAN'T TELL YOU!
HE NEEDS SOME PRODDING.
SNIKT
NEXT ONE'S UP THE MIDDLE.
SAME QUESTIONS.
NEW YORK. I WAS SENT BY DEATHWATCH. HE WANTS--
ARGHH!
THOK
SON--
--OF A...
OOF...
FWOOM
ENOUGH BLOODSHED
SPOK!
KRAK!
AAAAGHH
WHAK
THANK YOU FOR THE ASSISTANCE--
THUK
SWIPE
--THE DISTRACTION IS ENOUGH TO EVEN THE ODDS.
WHAT MANNER OF DEMON ARE YOU THAT HELPS THE INNOCENT?
I AM A FRIEND.

I GUESS IT'S TIME TO GO BACK TO NEW YORK.
I WANT TO KEEP A LOW PROFILE, BUT I'M COMING FOR YOU--
--DEATHWATCH.
THIS IS TWICE, DEATHWATCH.
IT WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN.
CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE...


VANDALS OF THE HEART!
CHAPTER 5
HADDA WIND UP HERE SOONER OR LATER...
...ALL THE CRUD GETS SWEPT OFF THE STREET...
...NEXT STEP'S OCEAN DUMPING...
...WASH UP ON SOMEBODY'S BEACH TOWEL...
...ALGAE FOR EYES, SEAWEED CAUGHT IN YOUR TEETH...
FEATURING:
INJURIES
TRINITY--!
POISON


FOR YA. FROM THE SLUG.

HE SAYS, "G'BYE."
BR REP BR
REP
REP

CECILIA CARDINALE'S APARTMENT...
MAMA--!
AIIEEE
MAMA, WHAT'S WRONG...?!
I...DO NOT ASK ME NOW, CARLOS... DO NOT SAY ANY-THING...
YOU MUST... GO AT ONCE... TO MARIA'S...
MAMA... I CAN TAKE CARE OF YOU...!
DO AS I SAY!
I MUST...BE ALONE...!
CARLOS... I DID NOT MEAN TO SHOUT...
FORGIVE ME...?
IT'S OKAY. I'M GOIN'
I SHOULD NEVER HAVE ALLOWED THE PAIN TO TOUCH CARLOS.
IT BELONGS ONLY TO ME... AND TO THE SHATTERED SPIRIT I HAVE CHOSEN TO AVENGE.
WHAT HAVE THEY DONE TO YOU THIS TIME, JOE TRINITY?

YOU CANNOT ANSWER, OF COURSE
YOU ARE UNAWARE OF THE PSYCHIC THREAD THAT BINDS US -- AND MUST REMAIN SO.
THAT SLENDER FILAMENT OF CONSCIOUSNESS IS MY WEAKNESS, YOU SEE
IT EXTENDS AS DEEPLY INTO MY MIND AS INTO YOURS.
IF YOU COULD TRAVEL ITS LENGTH, YOU WOULD KNOW OF CECILIA...
-- AND ALL THE THINGS THAT MOVE HER AND TOUCH HER.
YOU WOULD KNOW THE WOMAN WITHIN THE WARRIOR.
-- AND THAT IS FORBIDDEN.
YOU MUST SEE ONLY THE STEEL. YOU MUST KNOW ME ONLY AS POISON.

A SHORT TIME LATER..
SPITAL
--OF FRIGHT? HOW'S THAT POSSIBLE?
I CAN'T EXPLAIN IT, LIEUTENANT.
WHEN WE BROUGHT IN THE NEW PATIENT, HE SAT BOLT UPRIGHT--
--SCREAMED, AND THEN DIED.
WHERE'S THIS OTHER PATIENT?
WE MOVED HIM TO ANOTHER ROOM, OF COURSE
YOU'RE GOING TO BE INTERESTED IN HIM, ALSO, HARRIS.
WHY'S THAT...?
OH, A COUPLE OF REASONS. HE WAS PICKED UP IN A JUNKYARD ABOUT A MILE FROM HERE...
...SITTING IN HIS OWN BLOOD AND CLUTCHING A MOP.
YEAH? AND--?
THE BULLETS WE TOOK OUT OF HIM WERE PRETTY DISTINCTIVE--
...LIKE THE ONES FROM THAT DEALER WHO DIED IN O.R. LAST WEEK.
I HOPE YOU DRINK, ALCAZAR-- THIS DESERVES CHAMPAGNE
"FOXY" FINALLY LEFT US A WITNESS.

THE SLUG'S ESTATE...
...NOT LYING! I SWEAR...!
...FLOGGIN' MOP LEAPED OUTTA HIS HANDS AN' SOBE LIKE IT WAS ALIVE...!
IT WAS SHAKE ALL OVER ME... TEARIN' AN' BURNIN'...
...I NEVER SWHAKE FELT NOTHIN' LIKE IT. LIKE THE WORLD SHAKE TURNED INTO PAIN...!

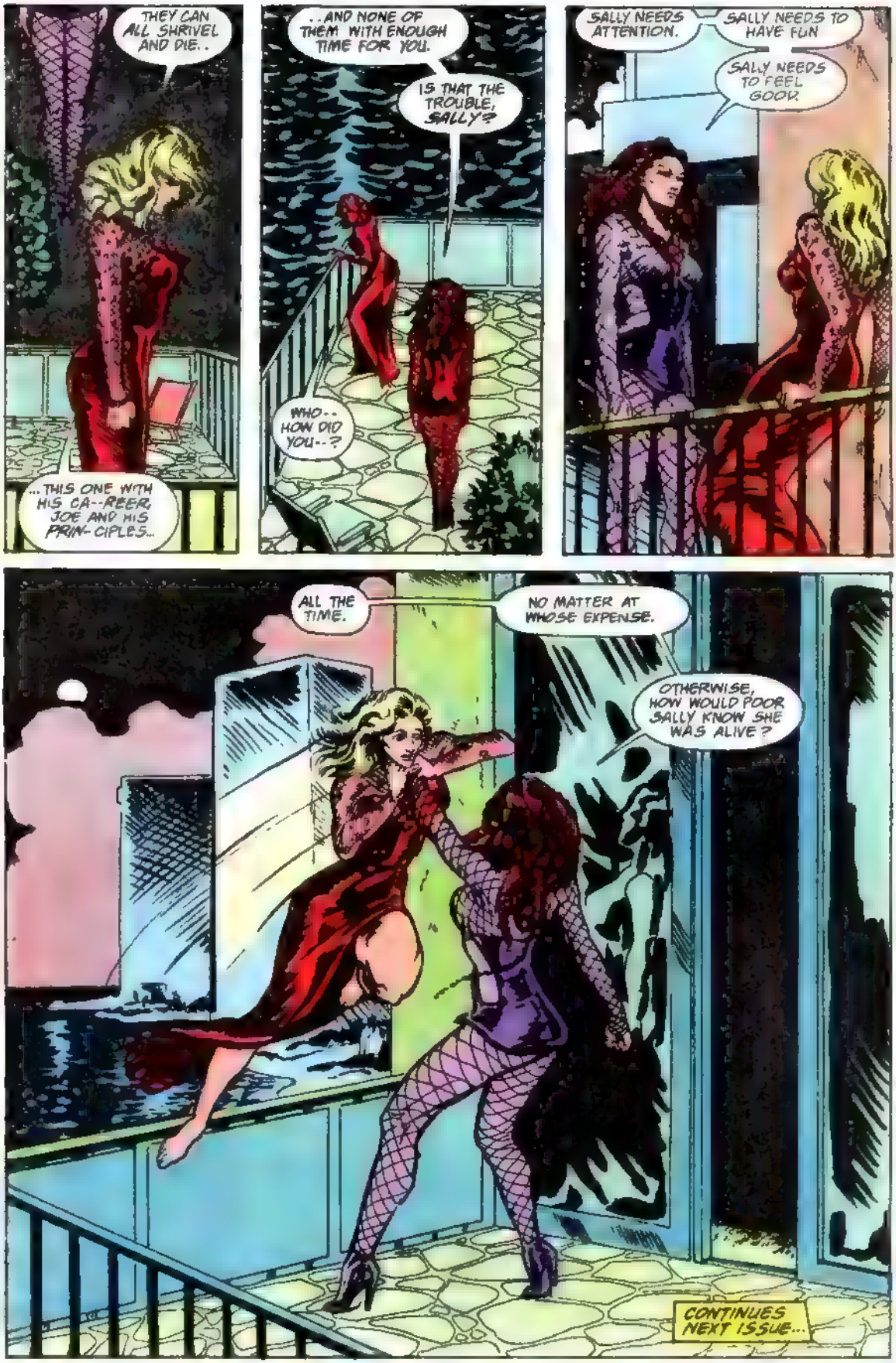
YOU LOOK APPALLING, FERDINAND... BUT YOU DO NOT PERSUADE
NOT COMPLETELY.
BROKEN LITTLE MEN WITH MOPS RARELY CAUSE THIS KIND OF DAMAGE, FERDINAND.

I WANT DR. KRISLOV TO HAVE A LOOK AT YOU--
--TO BE SURE YOU WEREN'T PURSUING A SIDE ACCOUNT, AND DIDN'T WALK INTO A FLAME THROWER.
SWHWHA E

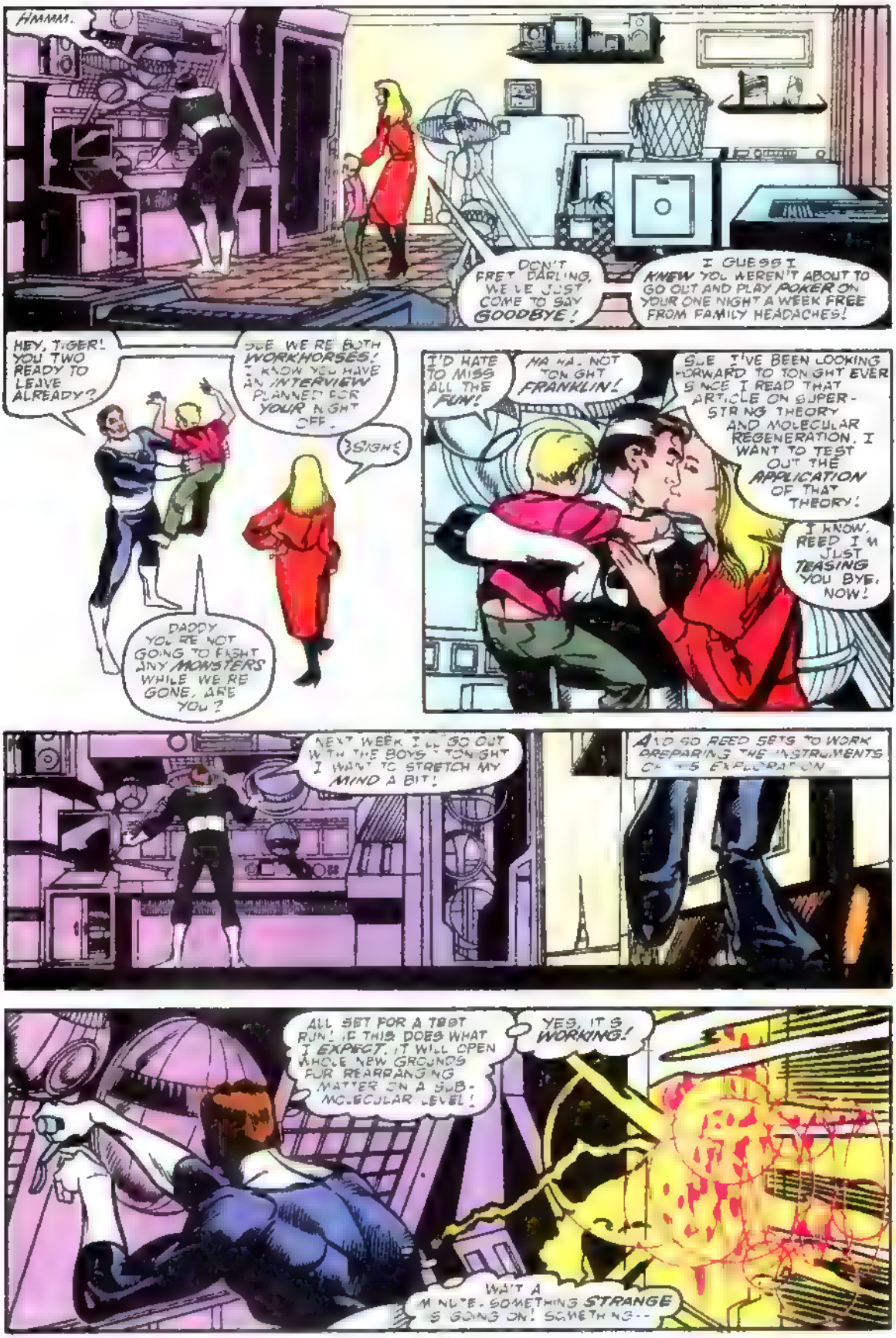
SNAP
GET DALLAS KERR ON THE PHONE.
YES, BOSS

ELSEWHERE--
WHEN'LL HE BE ABLE TO TALK?
MORNING HE'S HEAVILY SEDATED HE'LL SLEEP THROUGH THE NIGHT.
WHAT'D YOU DO WITH THE MOP?
YOU'RE NOT SERIOUS...?
SINCE WE MIGHT BE TALKIN' ABOUT A MURDER WEAPON-- YEAH, I AM WHERE IS IT?
IN THE JUNKYARD, PROB-- HUH?
WE GOT COMPANY. OUTSIDE-- ON THE LEDGE.
WHAT? THERE ISN'T ANY--
--LEDGE.
!
THE THING S HE CALLS "MAYRONA" IS SEARCHING FOR HIM...
.. AND HE FOR IT.

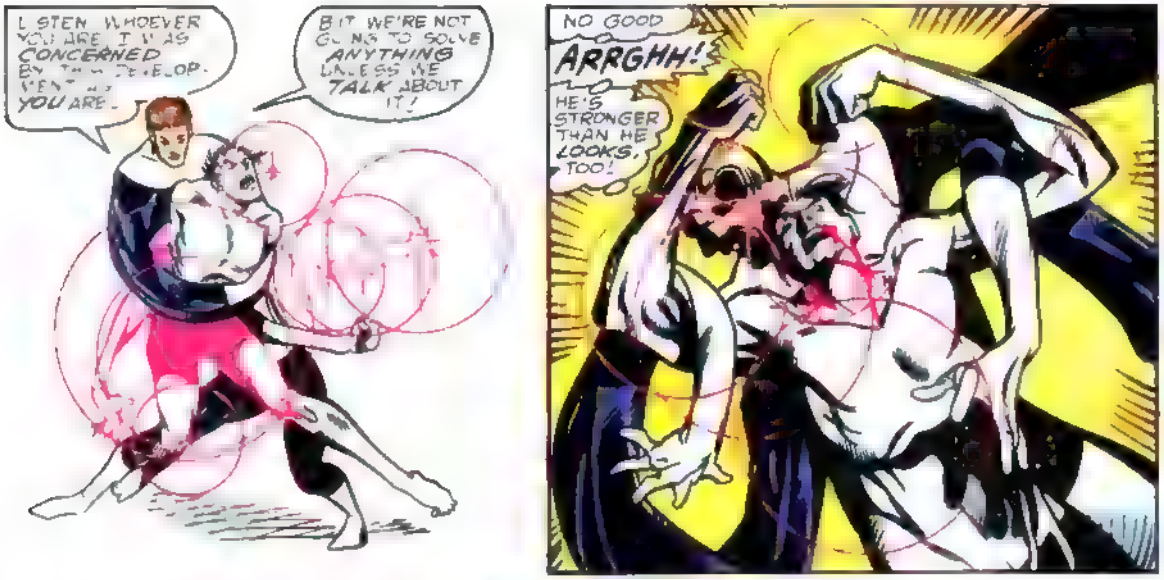
THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THEM CANNOT BE SEVERED BY MERE DISTANCE.
THE DANGER "SHE" PRESENTS INTRIGUES ME...
...BUT THE HUMAN VANDALS MUST BE DEALT WITH FIRST.
THE PAIN THEY HAVE SO GENEROUSLY GIVEN MUST BE RETURNED.
...YES, I AM SORRY TO HEAR THAT, MR. LUGGMAN...
RIGHT-- SORRY, SLUG.
YOU, UH, DON'T HOLD THIS AGAINST ME... DO YOU?
DALLAS, WHAT IS IT? WHAT'S GOING ON?
YOUR DEGENERATE EX MAY HAVE JUST COST ME A CAREER-- THAT'S WHAT!
NOW GET AWAY FROM ME...!
SORRY FOR THE INTERRUPTION...
...NO, NOTHING IMPORTANT.
HOW WOULD YOU SUGGEST WE PROCEED..?


THEY CAN ALL SHRIVEL AND DIE..
...THIS ONE WITH HIS CA--REER, JOE AND HIS PRIN-CIPLES...
..AND NONE OF THEM WITH ENOUGH TIME FOR YOU.
IS THAT THE TROUBLE, SALLY?
WHO-- HOW DID YOU--?
SALLY NEEDS ATTENTION.
SALLY NEEDS TO HAVE FUN
SALLY NEEDS TO FEEL GOOD.
ALL THE TIME.
NO MATTER AT WHOSE EXPENSE.
OTHERWISE, HOW WOULD POOR SALLY KNOW SHE WAS ALIVE?
CONTINUES NEXT ISSUE...

DEADLY DIMENSIONS
REED RICHARDS IS A SPECIAL MAN, A RARITY IN THIS SOCIETY. ONE COMFORTABLE IN MANY ROLES -- SCIENTIST INVENTOR, SOLDIER, AND HERO, GENTLE FATHER AND LOVING HUSBAND.
BUT, PERHAPS FIRST OF ALL OF THESE, HE IS AN EXPLORER. SHEDDING LIGHT ON MYSTERIES, PUSHING BACK BOUNDARIES..
BECAUSE HE KNOWS THAT IF OUR RACE IS TO SURVIVE THESE DANGEROUS TIMES, WE HAVE MUCH TO LEARN.
REED YOU'RE INCORRIGIBLE! YOUR FIRST NIGHT OFF AND HERE YOU ARE TINKERING IN YOUR LAB AGAIN
LET'S JOIN H M NOW ON AN EXPLORATION INTO THE UNKNOWN!
PART 1
COMMON SENSE!
FEATURING:
Fantastic Four
SPOTLIGHTING: MR. FANTASTIC!


HMMM.
DON'T FRET DARLING, WE'VE JUST COME TO SAY GOODBYE!
I GUESS I KNEW YOU WEREN'T ABOUT TO GO OUT AND PLAY POKER ON YOUR ONE NIGHT A WEEK FREE FROM FAMILY HEADACHES!
HEY, TIGER! YOU TWO READY TO LEAVE ALREADY?
SUE, WE'RE BOTH WORKHORSES! I KNOW YOU HAVE AN INTERVIEW PLANNED FOR YOUR NIGHT OFF.
SIGH
DADDY, YOU'RE NOT GOING TO FIGHT ANY MONSTERS WHILE WE'RE GONE, ARE YOU?
I'D HATE TO MISS ALL THE FUN!
HA HA. NOT TONIGHT FRANKLIN!
SUE, I'VE BEEN LOOKING FORWARD TO TONIGHT EVER SINCE I READ THAT ARTICLE ON SUPER-STRING THEORY AND MOLECULAR REGENERATION. I WANT TO TEST OUT THE APPLICATION OF THAT THEORY!
I KNOW, REED! I'M JUST TEASING YOU. BYE, NOW!
NEXT WEEK I'LL GO OUT WITH THE BOYS. TONIGHT I WANT TO STRETCH MY MIND A BIT!
AND SO REED SETS TO WORK PREPARING THE INSTRUMENTS FOR HIS EXPLORATION
ALL SET FOR A TEST RUN! IF THIS DOES WHAT I EXPECT, IT WILL OPEN WHOLE NEW GROUNDS FOR REARRANGING MATTER ON A SUB-MOLECULAR LEVEL!
YES, IT'S WORKING!
WAIT A MINUTE. SOMETHING STRANGE IS GOING ON! SOMETHING--

WHAT THE --?!
WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?
I DON'T MEAN YOU ANY HARM CAN YOU UNDERSTAND?!
NO, I GUESS NOT.
BUT HOW DID THIS HAPPEN? WHERE DID THIS CREATURE COME FROM? MY DEVICE SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO PRODUCE HIM!
IS HE VIOLENT BY NATURE OR JUST LASHING OUT BECAUSE HE'S CONFUSED? HOW DO I GET THROUGH TO HIM?


LISTEN WHOEVER YOU ARE, I WAS CONCERNED BY THE DEVELOPMENTS YOU ARE.
BUT WE'RE NOT GOING TO SOLVE ANYTHING UNLESS WE TALK ABOUT IT!
NO GOOD
ARRGHH!
HE'S STRONGER THAN HE LOOKS, TOO!

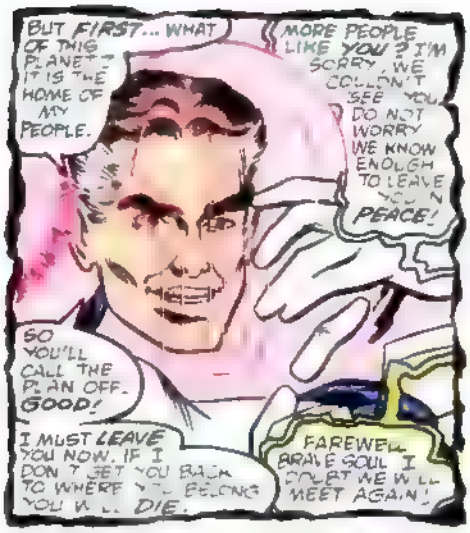
I'VE GOT TO END THIS FAST! SHOULD BE ABLE TO WITHOLD HURTING HIM TOO BAD.
BEING ON LEAVE FROM THE FANTASTIC FOUR DOES HAVE ITS ADVANTAGES!
IF WE WERE AT F.F. HEADQUARTERS, I'D PROBABLY BE TOPPLING REALLY EXPENSIVE EQUIPMENT TO STOP HIM!

THAT DID IT GOOD
BUT HE'S LYING AWFULLY STILL I SHOULDN'T HAVE HURT THAT MUCH!

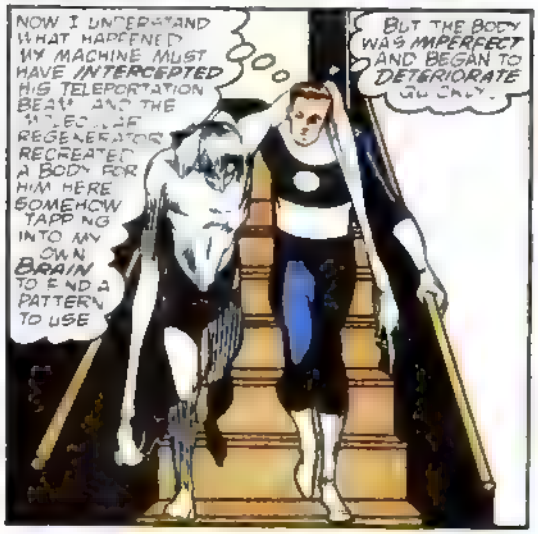
YES, HE'S HURT REALLY BAD DID I DO SOME INTERNAL DAMAGE?
BEING AWAY FROM THE F.F. ALSO HAS ITS DISADVANTAGES! IF I WERE THERE NOW I'D HAVE MUCH BETTER EQUIPMENT TO EXAMINE THIS POOR CREATURE.
SO LET'S THINK THIS THROUGH.
IT'S CLEAR THAT MY MOLECULAR REGENERATOR COULDN'T HAVE BUILT THIS CREATURE FROM SCRATCH.
SO HE MUST'VE COME FROM SOMEWHERE -- BUT WHERE?
HE HAS A PULSE LIKE OURS, BUT IT'S WEAK AND GETTING WEAKER. HE MAY BE DYING.
AND HIS BODY... ALMOST HUMAN, BUT ALL DISTORTED, LIKE SOMEBODY PUT IT TOGETHER WRONG. WHAT IS IT?
OKAY, FIRST THING I'VE GOT TO DO IS FIND A WAY TO COMMUNICATE WITH IT!
THERE. THAT SHOULD DO IT.
SOMETHING'S NAGGING AT ME. I'M MISSING SOMETHING HERE!
THAT CREATURE LOOKS ALMOST FAMILIAR.
THE LOOK IN ITS EYES WAS CONFUSED BUT INTELLIGENT! THERE MUST BE A WAY!
I HAVEN'T THE EQUIPMENT TO CONSTRUCT A UNIVERSAL TRANSLATOR, BUT I CAN THROW TOGETHER A SIMPLE BRAIN SCANNER.

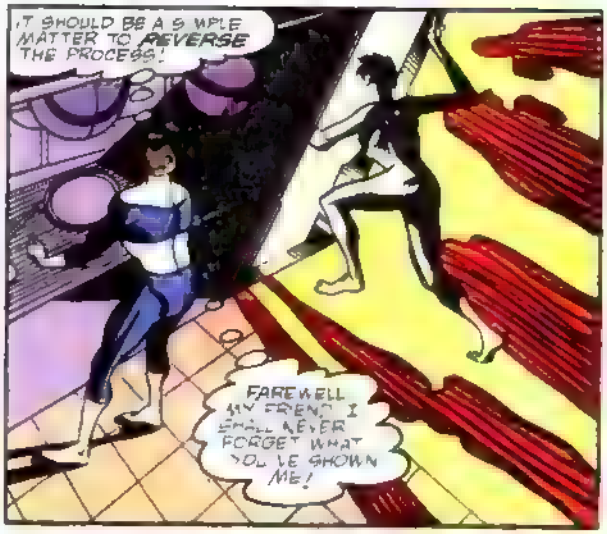
Hmmm. THIS IS VERY PECULIAR! I'VE NEVER SEEN READINGS LIKE THESE.
CAN IT BE?
YES! IT IS!
THIS CREATURE'S BRAIN IS MADE TO PROCESS AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT SET OF SENSES THAN HUMANS HAVE. IT DOESN'T SEE OR SMELL LIKE WE DO BUT PERCEIVES THINGS HUMANS CANNOT IMAGINE!
IN FACT, IT PROBABLY "SEES" AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT UNIVERSE THAN WE DO.
HMMM.
AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT UNIVERSE.
HOLD ON REED! WHAT YOU'RE CONTEMPLATING IS VERY, VERY DANGEROUS!
BUT HOW CAN I PASS UP THIS CHANCE?
HIS BRAIN PATTERN IS RECORDED IN MY COMPUTER NOW WITH JUST A SLIGHT ADJUSTMENT...
THIS DEVICE SHOULD ENABLE ME TO SEE THE WORLD HE SEES. MAYBE EVEN COMMUNICATE WITH HIM.
THIS SHOULD BE VERY INTERESTING.
HERE GOES! SHOULD TAKE A SECOND OR TWO TO KICK IN!
HEY! NOW I REALIZE WHY THAT CREATURE LOOKS FAMILIAR! HE ALMOST LOOKS LIKE--

ME!
PLEASE ALLOW US SOME LIBERTIES DEAR READER HOW CAN WE SHOW WHAT CANNOT BE SEEN? HOW CAN WE DESCRIBE WHAT CANNOT BE IMAGINED? SUFFICE IT TO SAY THAT REED IS EXPERIENCING SOMETHING BEYOND THE POSSIBILITIES OF HUMAN EXPERIENCE. NEEDLESS TO SAY HE IS
LOST!
THERE IS ANOTHER PRESENCE HERE I AM NO LONGER ALONE!
IT'S THE CREATURE! HE'S TRYING TO COMMUNICATE WITH ME!
I HAVE GONE MAD! PLEASE.. IF YOU HAVE THE POWER, END MY MISERY!
NO! YOU'RE NOT MAD! YOU'RE JUST TRAPPED IN A BODY THAT FUNCTIONS DIFFERENTLY THAN THE ONE YOU ARE USED TO. AND IT'S A POORLY-MADE BODY--IT'S DYING!
I MAY BE ABLE TO HELP YOU, IF YOU TELL ME WHO YOU ARE!
I AM FROM A DISTANT PLANET MY PEOPLE PLANNED TO INFILTRATE...TO COLONIZE THIS PLANET
COLONIZE? INFILTRATE? YOU MEAN TO INVADE THE EARTH?
INVADE? I DO NOT KNOW THE WORD. I WAS TO BE THE FIRST TO TELEPORT HERE.. BUT SOMETHING HAPPENED...
YES. YOU WERE CAUGHT IN A DEVICE OF MINE BY SOME ERROR. NOW I THINK I KNOW HOW TO SEND YOU BACK!

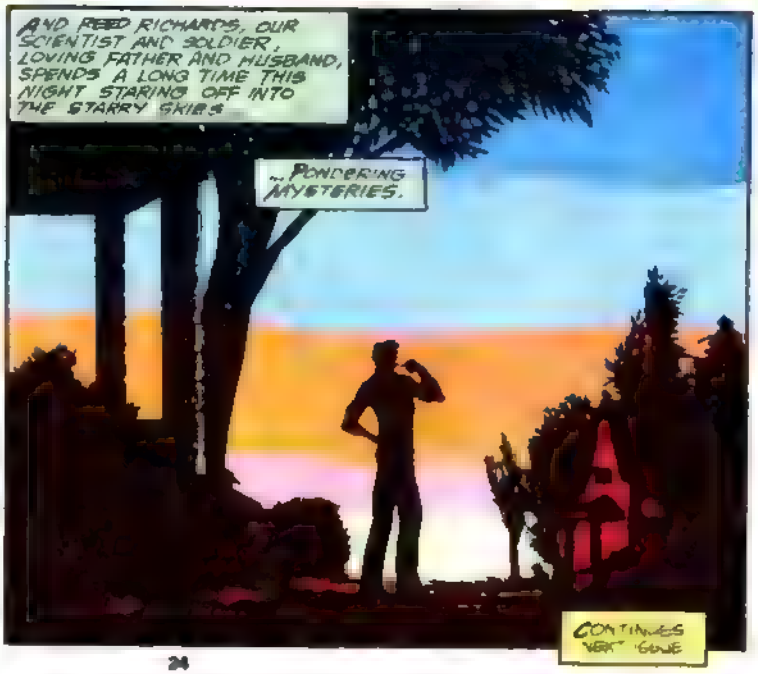

BUT FIRST... WHAT OF THIS PLANET - IT IS THE HOME OF MY PEOPLE.
MORE PEOPLE LIKE YOU? I'M SORRY, WE COULDN'T SEE YOU DO NOT WORRY WE KNOW ENOUGH TO LEAVE YOU IN PEACE!
SO YOU'LL CALL THE PLAN OFF. GOOD!
I MUST LEAVE YOU NOW. IF I DON'T GET YOU BACK TO WHERE YOU BELONG YOU WILL DIE.
FAREWELL BRAVE SOUL I DOUBT WE WILL MEET AGAIN!

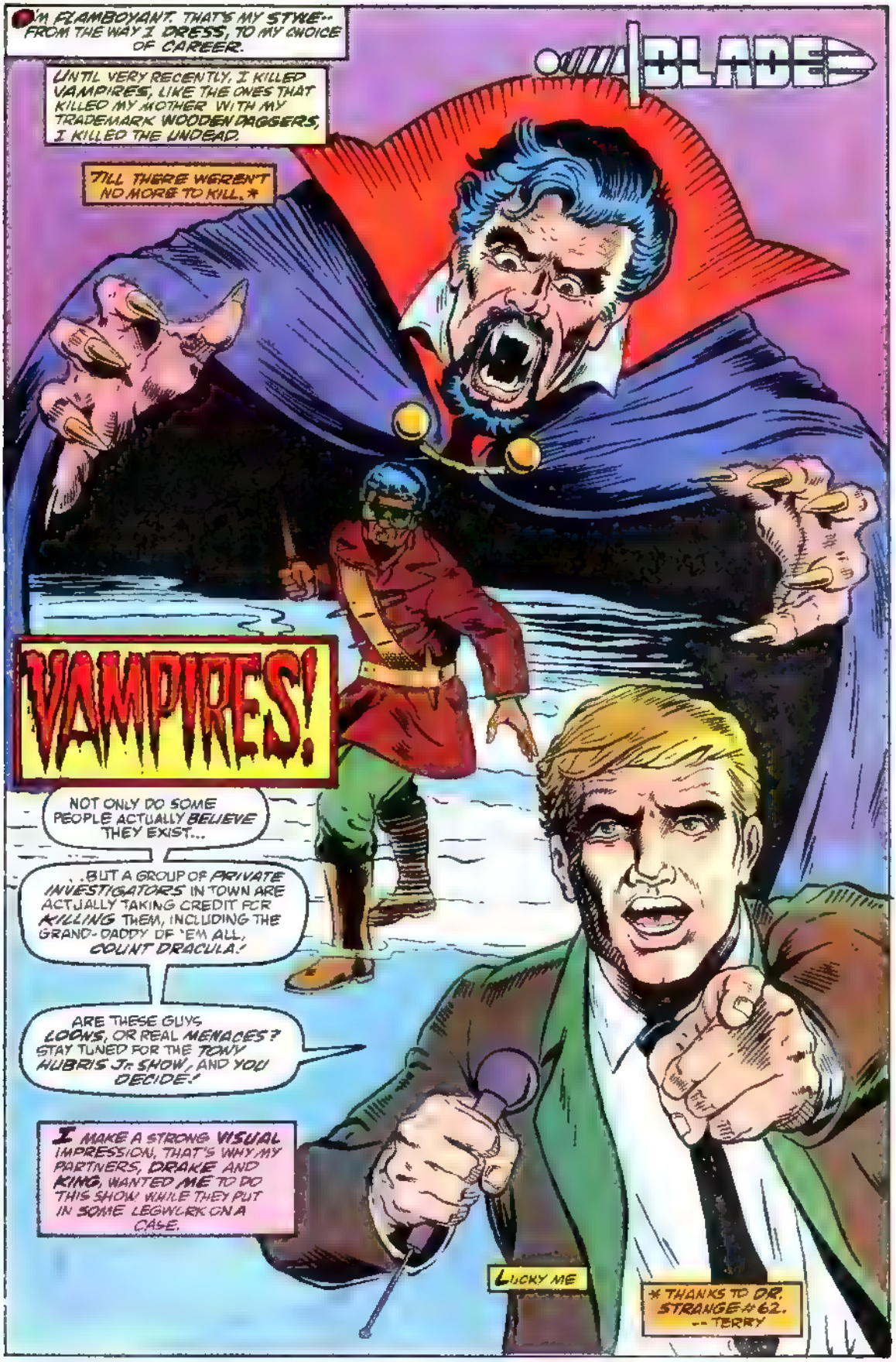
I'M AFRAID HE'S RIGHT THE GULF THAT SEPARATES US IS TOO GREAT I'D FEAR FOR MY OWN SANITY IF I'D STAYED THERE MUCH LONGER


NOW I UNDERSTAND WHAT HAPPENED MY MACHINE MUST HAVE INTERCEPTED HIS TELEPORTATION BEAM AND THE MOLECULAR REGENERATOR RECREATED A BODY FOR HIM HERE SOMEHOW TAPPING INTO MY OWN BRAIN TO FIND A PATTERN TO USE
BUT THE BODY WAS IMPERFECT AND BEGAN TO DETERIORATE QUICKLY.

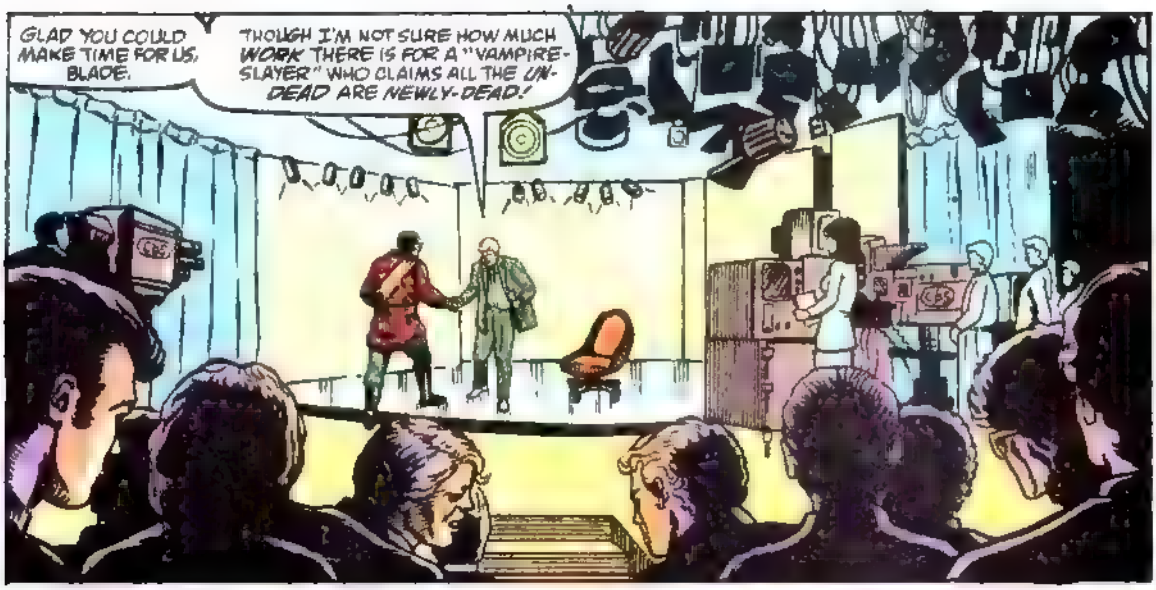

IT SHOULD BE A SIMPLE MATTER TO REVERSE THE PROCESS!
FAREWELL MY FRIEND I SHALL NEVER FORGET WHAT YOU'VE SHOWN ME!

HE'S GONE
BUT I'M STILL WORRIED ABOUT THIS MACHINE I DON'T UNDERSTAND NOW IT DID WHAT IT DID!
I'D BETTER PACK IT UP AND SEND IT TO FF HEADQUARTERS UNTIL I HAVE MORE TIME TO LOOK AT IT.


AND REED RICHARDS, OUR SCIENTIST AND SOLDIER, LOVING FATHER AND HUSBAND, SPENDS A LONG TIME THIS NIGHT STARING OFF INTO THE STARRY SKIES
...PONDERING MYSTERIES.
CONTINUES NEXT ISSUE


I'M FLAMBOYANT. THAT'S MY STYLE-- FROM THE WAY I DRESS, TO MY CHOICE OF CAREER.
BLADE
UNTIL VERY RECENTLY, I KILLED VAMPIRES, LIKE THE ONES THAT KILLED MY MOTHER WITH MY TRADEMARK WOODEN DAGGERS, I KILLED THE UNDEAD.
TILL THERE WERE'NT NO MORE TO KILL. *
VAMPIRES!
NOT ONLY DO SOME PEOPLE ACTUALLY BELIEVE THEY EXIST...
...BUT A GROUP OF PRIVATE INVESTIGATORS IN TOWN ARE ACTUALLY TAKING CREDIT FOR KILLING THEM, INCLUDING THE GRAND-DADDY OF 'EM ALL, COUNT DRACULA!
ARE THESE GUYS LOONS, OR REAL MENACES? STAY TUNED FOR THE TONY HUBRIS JR. SHOW, AND YOU DECIDE!
I MAKE A STRONG VISUAL IMPRESSION, THAT'S WHY MY PARTNERS, DRAKE AND KING, WANTED ME TO DO THIS SHOW WHILE THEY PUT IN SOME LEGWORK ON A CASE.
LUCKY ME
* THANKS TO DR. STRANGE #62. -- TERRY

I SHOULD'VE SEEN IT COMING
THUNK
IDIOT!
I MUST'VE BEEN OUT OF MY HEAD TO LET THOSE GUYS TALK ME INTO DOING THIS SHOW! I SHOULD BE OUT THERE WITH THEM, TRACKING THE DARK-HOLDER'S CULT!
ANYWHERE BUT HERE...
BUT THAT'S ALWAYS YOUR ANSWER, ISN'T IT, BLADE?
WHAT WAS THAT, SAFFRON?
TONY HUBERT'S SHOW WEDNESDAY!
YOU'D RATHER BE ANYWHERE, ANYTIME THAN HERE WITH ME! I THOUGHT YOUR VAMPIRE-HUNTING DAYS ENDED WHEN THE LAST ONES DIED!
I THOUGHT WE'D FINALLY HAVE A CHANCE TO TALK ABOUT US, ABOUT THE FUTURE!
BUT YOU KEEP FINDING REASONS-- EXCUSES--NOT TO!
HEY DON'T STEP TO ME BABE! YOU KNOW HOW I LIVE... WHAT KIND OF GUY I AM...
YEAH, I GUESS I DO-- THE KIND WHO'D RATHER GET TORN APART ON NATIONAL T.V. THAN SPEND ONE MOMENT ALONE WITH ME...
.. THAN REMEMBER IT'S THE ANNIVERSARY OF OUR FIRST STUPID DATE!
AWW, NO.
I'M SORRY I'M TIGHT.. BEEN SO CAUGHT UP IN THIS DARKHOLDERS THING.
USING THE BOOK OF THE DARKHOLD, CREEPS LIKE THEM CREATED VAMPIRES IN THE FIRST PLACE. THEY WORSHIPPED VAMPS.
IF THEY'VE MANAGED TO GET AHOLD OF THE BOOK AGAIN.
LOOK, BABE WHEN WE GET THESE GUYS, THEN THERE'LL BE TIME I PROMISE, THERE'LL BE--
FIVE MINUTES TO AIR, MR.. "BLADE"

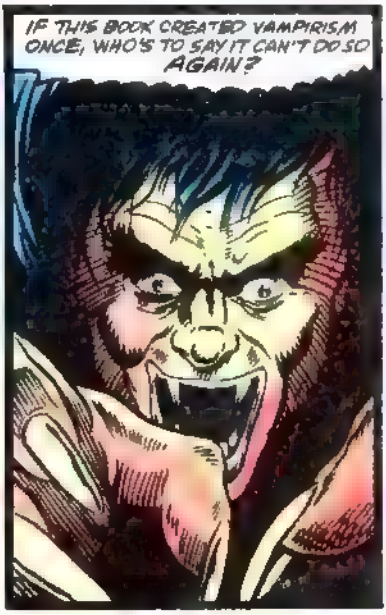

GLAD YOU COULD MAKE TIME FOR US, BLADE.
THOUGH I'M NOT SURE HOW MUCH WORK THERE IS FOR A "VAMPIRE-SLAYER" WHO CLAIMS ALL THE UN-DEAD ARE NEWLY-DEAD!

VAMPIRES WERE CREATED CENTURIES AGO USING A SPELL FROM AN ANCIENT BOOK CALLED THE DARKHOLD. THE DEAD WERE BROUGHT BACK TO LIFE, TO FEED ON THE LIVING.
ANOTHER SPELL FROM THE SAME BOOK DESTROYED THEM.

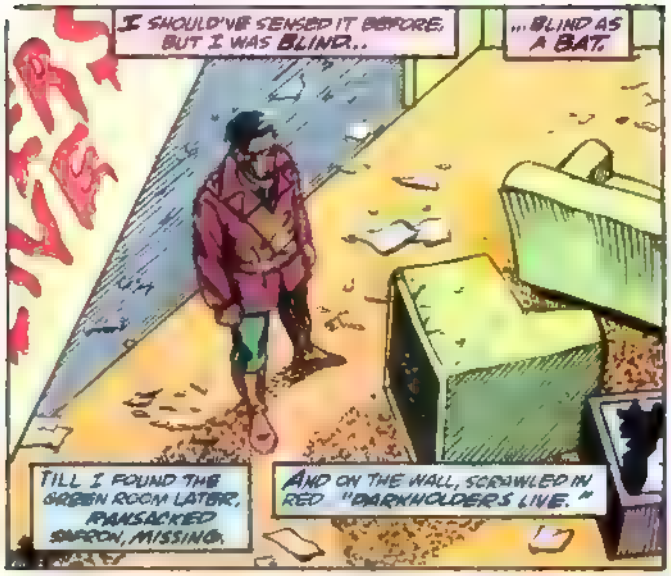
AND YOU AND YOUR PARTNERS TAKE CREDIT FOR THAT?
PARTIAL. WE HAD A LOT OF HELP FROM DR. STRANGE..
AHH, THE NOTED NOW-YOU-SEE-HIM, NOW-YOU-DON'T OCCULTIST WHO RECENTLY SCAMMED FREE PUBLICITY BY FAKING HIS OWN DISAPPEARANCE!
SOUNDS LIKE THE KIND OF SHYLOCK THAT'D BE MIXED UP IN THIS!

BLADE. WHERE DO YOU GET OFF SPOUTING THIS BULL? THESE ARE THE NINETIES.
THERE ARE NO SUCH THINGS AS VAMPIRES!

THOSE THAT WERE THERE KNOW--
THAT YOU AND YOUR PALS STOPPED AN ENTIRE ARMY OF THE UNDEAD, WITH YOUR LITTLE TOOTHPICKS AND A DIMESTORE-PAPERBACK?
TELL ME THEN, BLADE--
--ISN'T IT TRUE THAT SINCE HIS ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE, YOU CAN'T BE SURE DR. STRANGE IS STILL IN POSSESSION OF THAT LITTLE BLACK BOOK OF BADNESS, CAN YOU?


IF THIS BOOK CREATED VAMPIRISM ONCE, WHO'S TO SAY IT CAN'T DO SO AGAIN?

REALLY, BROTHER, YOUR STORY IS FULLA MORE HOLES THAN A VAMPIRE'S BOTTOM LIP!
HAHAHAHA
WE'LL BE BACK TO TALK TO A LADY WHO CLAIMS SHE ONCE HAD A BABY BY DRACULA, AFTER THIS...


I SHOULD'VE SENSED IT BEFORE. BUT I WAS BLIND..
...BLIND AS A BAT.
TILL I FOUND THE GREEN ROOM LATER. RANSACKED SAFRON, MISSING.
AND ON THE WALL, SCRAWLED IN RED: "DARKHOLDERS LIVE."

I SHOULD'VE SEEN IT COMING.
..OH, LORD! WHAT HAPPENED HERE?
BLADE! THERE IS A NEW DARKHOLDERS SECT! THEY SAY THEY'VE GOT THE BOOK..
DRAKE KING THEY GOT SAFRON.

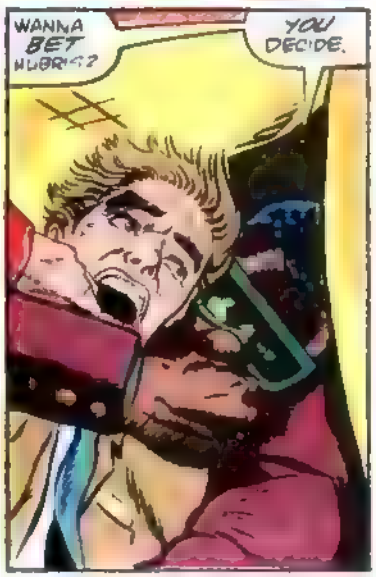
OH, NO - IF THEY'VE GOT THE BOOK THEN THEY'VE GOT THE SPELL.
THE ONE SPELL AND SAFRON MIGHT BE
DON'T SAY IT.
THEY'LL NEED A BLOOD SACRIFICE. A SACRIFICE TO BRING BACK THE VAMPS.

TO BRING BACK THE SCUM THAT HAS SHADOWED ME SINCE BIRTH. A VAMPIRE KILLED MY MOTHER
LEFT ME ALONE 'CAUSE I WAS LESS N A MEAL I MADE HIM LIVE TO REGRET IT
THEN I MADE HIM DIE. MADE THEM ALL DIE, FOR DESTROYING EVERYTHING I EVER LOVED. DESTROYING ME.

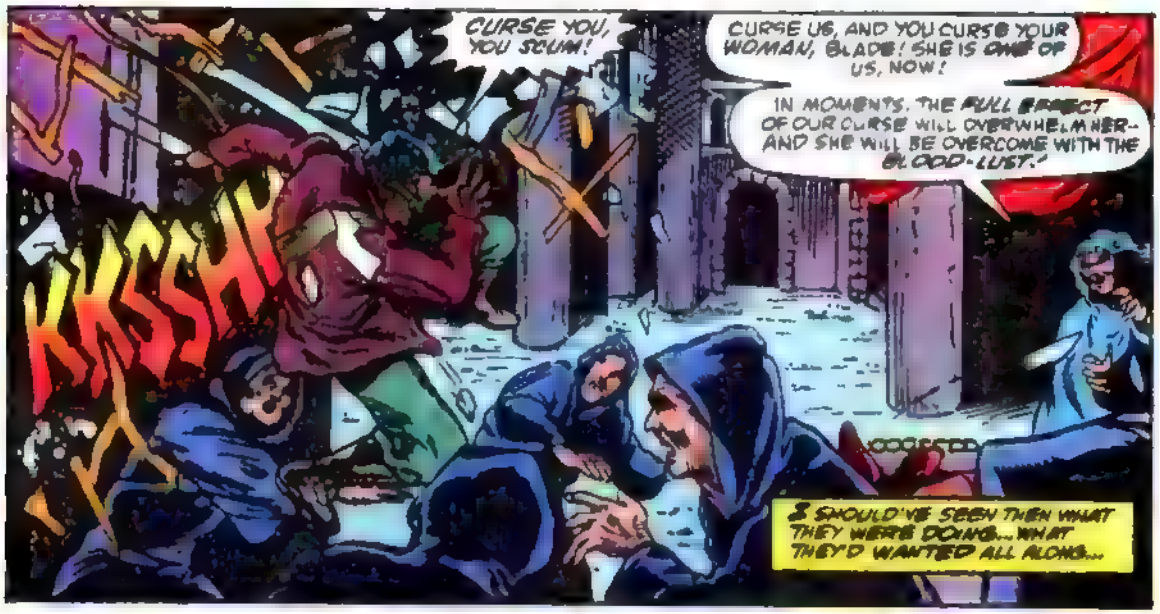
'TIL THERE WASN'T NO MORE TO DESTROY.

THEY'LL NEED A SACRIFICE. AND THEY'VE GOT SAFRON.
STAY OUTTA MY WAY DRAKE. I GOT BUSINESS.

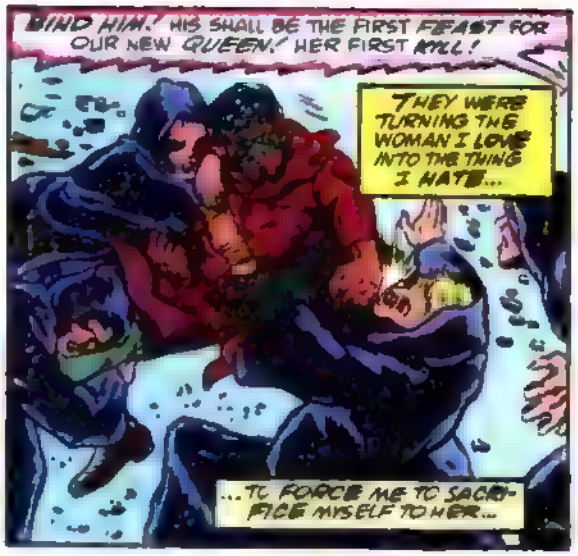
HUBRIS WAS BACKSTAGE CLOSED STUDIO. SO HE THOUGHT.
YEAH, BEAVER IT WENT GREAT. TONIGHT IT HAPPENS AND THERE'S NOT A THING BLADE CAN DO ABOUT IT!


WANNA BET HUBRIS?
YOU DECIDE.

I WAS UPSTATE AS FAST AS FOUR WHEELS'D CARRY ME. THE CASTLE WAS JUST LIKE HUBRIS DESCRIBED.
I ALMOST WISH HUBRIS HAD BEEN A VAMP. I WOULDA DONE MORE THAN JUST CONVINCE HIM TO TALK, AND I WOULDN'T HAVE LEFT HIM FOR THE COPS.
I DON'T LEAVE VAMPS FOR THE COPS.
HUBRIS WAS A STINKING DARKHOLDER, SPOUTIN' HATE AND VENOM, SAYING HOW I'D BE DEAD AND BURIED BY THE END OF THE EVENING, FOR MY PART IN THE DEATH OF DRACULA
..THEIR LORD, DRACULA.
I DIDN'T LEAVE DRACULA FOR NO COPS.
BUT I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO DEAL WITH HUBRIS. I HAD TO STOP THEM. STOP THEM FROM BRINGING THE NIGHTMARE BACK.
...IN THIS WOMAN, FIRST OF THE NEW ORDER! THROUGH THIS BLOOD SACRIFICE TO THE NEW MISTRESS OF THE UNDEAD, WE BIND HER TO OUR LORD!
WE MAKE HER A VAMPIRE!
NO!
NOOOOOOO!


CURSE YOU, YOU SCUM!
CURSE US, AND YOU CURSE YOUR WOMAN, BLADE! SHE IS ONE OF US, NOW!
IN MOMENTS, THE FULL EFFECT OF OUR CURSE WILL OVERWHELM HER-- AND SHE WILL BE OVERCOME WITH THE BLOOD-LUST.'
KKSSHP
I SHOULD'VE SEEN THEN WHAT THEY WERE DOING... WHAT THEY'D WANTED ALL ALONG...

...BUT I WAS IN A FRENZY OF MY OWN, NOT THINKING CLEARLY.
KRAK
NOT THINKING AT ALL.


BIND HIM.' HIS SHALL BE THE FIRST FEAST FOR OUR NEW QUEEN.' HER FIRST KILL!
THEY WERE TURNING THE WOMAN I LOVE INTO THE THING I HATE...
...TO FORCE ME TO SACRIFICE MYSELF TO HER...

FIGHT ON, FOOL!

IN SECONDS, YOUR PATHETIC WOODEN STICKS WILL BE USELESS AGAINST OUR NEW BREED OF VAMPIRE!
N-NO... BLADE... NO!

...OR DESTROY THE BEST THING IN MY LIFE.
SSSSSSSSNNNH

AAARRRGHH! MY GUN!
THOKK
HERE, LET ME GET THAT FOR YOU, CLUMSY!
STOP HIM!
BLADE, DON'T BE A FOOL!
OH, I'M NO FOOL, REAVER! I'M NOT THE SMARTEST GUY, BUT I KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT SOMETHING.
I KNOW ENOUGH TO BE SURE YOU CAN'T CREATE NO NEW KIND OF VAMPIRE USING THE DARKHOLD! JUST BRING BACK THE ONES THERE WERE!
AND YOU CAN'T DO THAT WITH NO STUPID POTION. VAMPIRES ARE UNDEAD-- THEY HAVE TO BE DEAD FIRST!
I FIGURED OUT AS SOON AS I SAW SAFRON ALIVE THAT THIS WAS ALL SOME KIND OF SCAM.
HE KNOWS.
WE'RE LOST! FLEE!
ALL MY LIFE I'VE BEEN A HUNTER. I'VE NEVER SLOWN A KILL.
BUT I HUNTED VAMPIRES.
THESE SCUM ARE MEMBERS OF THE MEANEST CULT THAT HAS EVER EXISTED. THEY REEK OF PURE EVIL. THEY DESERVE THE FATE THEY PLANNED FOR ME.
I'VE NEVER KILLED A HUMAN BEFORE...

...I GUESS SOME HABITS ARE HARD TO BREAK.
BLAM BLAM BLAM
THAT'S FAR ENOUGH, CREEPS! THIS THING AIN'T MY FORTE--SO I'D MOVE REAL SLOW, IF I WAS YOU!
BLADE! THEY... SOME KIND OF DRUG... COULDN'T... THINK... TO WARN YOU...
EASY, SAFRON. IT'S OVER.
WHA--AND REAVER'S GONE!
THE NIGHTMARE IS OVER. THE VAMPS AIN'T COMING BACK.
THESE CREEPS WANTED REVENGE FOR MY PART IN THE DEATH O' DRACULA. BUT THEY DIDN'T JUST WANT ME DEAD.
THEY WANTED ME CURSED, KNOWING I'D KILLED THE PERSON I LOVE MOST IN THE WORLD. THEN I'D BE EASY PICKINGS...
BUT IT DIDN'T WORK. THANK GOODNESS, IT DIDN'T WORK.
IT'S ALL RIGHT, BABY. IT'S OVER.
IT IS OVER.
ONCE I KILLED VAMPIRES. IT'S WHAT I DID.
BUT NOW THERE AIN'T NO MORE TO KILL.
NOW IT'S TIME I GOT ON WITH MY LIFE. AND I'LL KEEP TELLING MYSELF THE VAMPS AIN'T NEVER COMING BACK.
AND MAYBE ONE DAY, I'LL BELIEVE IT.
The End.

# MARVEL® READERS PRESENT

c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP 387 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016

Attention correspondents: All letters to be considered for publication must include your name and address though we will withhold that info by request.

TERRY KAVANAGH
Editor

KELLY CORVESE
Assistant Editor

Dear Marvel,

I wanted to write to you concerning a few things from MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #51 and #52.

First off, I'd like to agree with Charles Novinskie about Wolverine's permanent position in MCP. Wolverine seems like an almost illogical choice for a permanent feature in a book which was designed to spotlight lesser-known and less prominent characters. Wolverine already has his own book (the Punisher has two books). The point is that Wolverine permanently stuck in MCP will only serve to hurt the variety of the stories in this book. Colossus, Beast, Storm or Banshee are just a few examples of mutants that can be put into the lead feature. None of them have their own book so the stories could always be fresh. And instead of different, mediocre stories, how about a continuing serial? I would rather not see a permanent character in your book at all, but these suggestions might make the inevitable easier to deal with.

Now a few comments on the stories:

#51: After all the previous complaining, the Wolverine story looks all right, although after reading the first two installments, it looks like it should be a four-parter instead of just three. Comet Man: I'm kind of lost because I didn't read the Limited Series a while back, but Kelley Jones and Gerry Talaoc's art is funky enough for a thumb's-up. Iron Man: Okay. I thought the story was a bit idealistic with Shellhead thinking he was going to save those kids, but I guess that was the point of the story. Le Peregrine: A good example of what this book was created for.

#52: I've commented on both the Wolverine and the Comet Man stories so I'll skip those. Rick Jones: It was kind of neat. Rarely do we get to see Rick in solo action. At least he learned something hanging around all those super-powered guys. Hulk: This is one of the worst stories I have read anywhere! Gimme a break! Alien kids having fun blowing up the universe without realizing they're hurting anyone? Ron Wilson has been watching too many cheap Saturday morning cartoons!

Finally, where is the long-awaited "Foes of Spider-Man" serial? Has it been scrapped or what?

Dan Keller
4301 Bishop
Quincy, IL 62301

**Sorry, Dan, but the "Foes of Spider-Man" epic experienced some technical difficulties which slowed it down a little . . . okay, a lot! But we promise here and now that you will be seeing it quite soon. And it will really be worth the wait! We promise! By the way, did you mention Charles S. Novinskie?**

Dear Terry,

The problem I continue to have with the leadoff Wolverine feature is that strange feeling I get every issue, "Didn't I read this story already?" If you must have the Wolverine lead feature every month, try to get some top talent and give us stories that we won't soon forget. By the way, I was talking about the Wolverine vs. Wild Child story in issue #52 of MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS (but the comments apply to any of the previous Wolverine stories, as well).

Rich Howell (talented rascal) turned in a nice Rick Jones story, the perfect character for MCP. I can't imagine one person doing it all on a story. Surely you must have left out some other credit. Colorist or letterer even?

The Comet Man story is amazingly quite good considering I'm not a Comet Man fan. Once again, Comet Man, a character destined for comics limbo, has found a nice niche in this title. Obscure characters finally have a place to shine on their own, at least for eight pages an issue.

The Hulk—Again? My guess is that the Hulk has the most appearances in this title, sans Wolverine. While I favor appearances by characters without their own titles, Ron Wilson did an excellent job on this story. This Hulk tale serves as an example of the way in which eight pages should be handled. The story was whimsical, entertaining and just plain fun to read.

Charles S. Novinskie
P.O. Box 1323
Grand Junction, CO 81502

**We're still counting Hulk appearances, Charles, so we'll have to get back to you on that one. And yes, Rich did, in fact, do everything for that issue, including letter and color it! He really made it easy on us. At least someone (sniff) cares about our well (sniff) being. Oh, before we get too choked up, we'd better get on to the next letter (sniff) . . .**

Dear Marvel,

I just read MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #52 and felt compelled to write because I thought it was a darn good issue. Even though the art on the cover didn't thrill me quite that much, I saw the characters who were going to be in this issue and realized I had to buy it.

I have eagerly awaited all of the Wolverine stories you've put out over the issues because he is by far my favorite character. Rob Liefeld's "The Wilding" didn't let me down in the least. I collect the title NEW MUTANTS and I think his work is just exquisite. I didn't know he could write as well. Wow, what a talent! His portrayal of Wolvie matches Chris Claremont's. And that's not idle praise because Chris is by far my favorite writer. As for his art, well that didn't let me down either. I hope he has more stuff lined up in MCP. I know I'll buy it.

I never really collected the Comet Man Limited Series, but I like the stuff I see in this story. I really felt bad for Benny, and I'm glad he came out of his depression. I couldn't believe I saw Miguel Ferrer's name on this work, though. He was my favorite character on *Twin Peaks* (actually, he was my favorite male. I have to say I like looking at Sherelyn Fenn more. Sorry, Miguel . . .). I can't believe he writes comics too! Anyway, this looks like it's working up to a thunderous conclusion, so I'll be there for it.

I thought the Rick Jones story was okay, but to be honest, I was never too thrilled with Rich Howell's art. The story was good, though. And I always like to see how Rick's life is going.

Even though I thought the Hulk story was kind of dumb, I enjoyed it nonetheless. Ron Wilson always has a way of making a story exciting, and this was no exception. That alien game-playing thing was pretty moronic, though. Sorry, Ron.

Anyway, I enjoyed this issue a lot. Especially the Wolverine story and the Miguel Ferrer writing. Keep up the good work, guys.

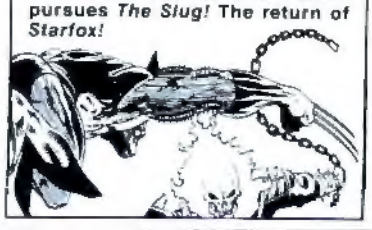
Chris Edwards
437½ N. Hayworth
Los Angeles, CA 90048

**Glad you enjoyed the book, Chris. And even though it has nothing to do with this book, we think you'll be happy to know that Miguel has signed on to be in three more episodes of *Twin Peaks* this fall! And maybe we'll get him to do more stuff for us too!**

**Also, before we go, we'd just like to mention that, in case you were wondering, we've delayed the results of our "Favorite Character" poll from a few months back because we're still receiving cards from some quite tardy readers. Hopefully, we'll get the results to you in a few weeks. And judging from what we've seen so far, many of you may be surprised with the results!**

## NEXT ISSUE:

***Wolverine* vs. *Ghost Rider!* Spotlight on *The Invisible Woman!* *Poison* pursues *The Slug!* The return of *Starfox!***



THE PERILS OF POISON!
BEGINNING A BRAND NEW TALE OF THE ORIGINAL Fantastic Four -- SPOTLIGHTING MR. FANTASTIC!
4
BLADE
THE VAMPIRE SLAYER RETURNS WITH A VENGEANCE!